



NOVEMBER 2013

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

Duty with Compassion

A Profile of the Department of Animal Care and Control

What do CEO William T Fujioka, his Chief Deputy Brence Culp, Assistant County Counsel Joyce Aiello, and many other County employees have in common? They adopted their pets at one of six animal care centers operated by the Department of Animal Care and Control (Department).

Adopting pets from an Animal Care and Control center provides incredible benefits to pet owners, and saves animals from being euthanized. Due to the Department's nonprofit partnerships (which have provided opportunities like cross-country and state transports of small animals) and offsite adoption event efforts, the animal euthanasia rate has dropped by 65% since the year 2001. The Department's "Reducing Canine Euthanasia through Partnerships" was ranked in the Top 10 in Best Projects at the recently concluded County of Los Angeles 27th Annual Productivity and Quality Awards.

"We work closely with animal rescue and transportation groups for efficient adoptions and fostering," said Department of Animal Care and Control Director Marcia Mayeda.

In January 2012, the Department formed a Critical Case Processing Unit to handle dangerous and vicious dog cases. Since then, the unit has handled over 400 cases of dogs attacking dogs, joggers, mail carriers, and children. In the event that an order of destruction is warranted, an administrative process takes place. In addition, the unit also looks into Title X, an ordinance aimed at strengthening local laws about regulating animals, licensing, safety, etc.

"It's never dull," Mayeda said in describing her department. "Our goal is to provide public safety and protection to both animals and people. What we do is very rewarding."

In order to get the word out, the Department utilizes Facebook and Twitter, and proudly showcases its new website which it unveiled in July.



The Department has 360 employees and 600 volunteers, working to rescue cats, dogs, and other animals, even a crocodile and a 13-foot albino python.

"My management team and I scan the environment to see what training and resources are needed for our employees to efficiently and effectively perform their duty," said Mayeda. To date, they have provided batons, pepper spray, tranquilizer guns (not firearms) and a new and improved uniform. A more comfortable one!

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Natural History Museum

(213) 763-DINO

www.nhm.org

Ongoing – Becoming Los Angeles

Through August 3 – Just Add Water

December 22 through April 13 – Traveling the Silk Road

Los Angeles County Museum of Art

(323) 857-6010

www.lacma.org

Through December 1 – Kitasono Katue: Surrealist Poet

Through January 23 – David Hockney: Seven Yorkshire Landscape Videos, 2011

Through February 2 – Under the Mexican Sky: Gabriel Figueroa-Art and Film

Through June 22 – Agnes Varda in Californialand

November 24 through July 27 – Calder and Abstraction: From Avant-Garde to Iconic

Center Theatre Group

(213) 628-2772

www.centertheatregroup.org

- **Ahmanson Theatre**

Through December 1 – Sleeping Beauty

December 3 through January 12 – Peter and the Starcatcher

- **Kirk Douglas Theatre**

Through November 24 – The Black Suits

- **Mark Taper Forum**

November 26 through January 5 – The Steward of Christendom

Dorothy Chandler Pavilion

Through December 1 – Falstaff

Through December 15 – The Magic Flute

Walt Disney Concert Hall

November 25 – Colburn Orchestra and members of USC Thornton Symphony

December 10 – Go Tell It on the Mountain: The Blind Boys of Alabama Christmas Show

December 17 – A Judy Collins Christmas

Grand Park

www.grandparkla.org

November 26 – Downtown Farmers' Market

November 27 – Lunchtime Yoga reTreat

Visit <http://hr.lacounty.gov> for
information on employment
opportunities with the
County of Los Angeles



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by Mark Richman, M.D.

Physician Specialist, Emergency Medicine
Olive View-UCLA Medical Center
and Amy Skelton, student volunteer

The Danger of Diabetes

Patients with diabetes have difficulty absorbing blood sugar into cells for energy. The protein “insulin” helps sugar enter cells. Patients with Type 1 diabetes do not produce insulin from the pancreas and require insulin injections. Patients with Type 2 diabetes are insulin-resistant, often because the body’s cells become larger from obesity. Most Type 2 patients start with oral medications, stimulating insulin production or tissue sensitivity. Many require insulin injections because the pancreas “burns out.”

Diabetes symptoms include weight loss, fatigue, nausea, frequent urination, thirst/hunger despite drinking/eating plenty, frequent infections, blurred vision, injuries that heal slowly, and tingling, pain, or numbness in hands/feet.

Diabetes diagnosis is made by fingerstick blood sugar, or by hemoglobin A1C, representing the last three months’ blood sugar control. Medication and lifestyle recommendations may be made using both sources of information.

The most concerning short-term complication is diabetic ketoacidosis (DKA). When the body can’t use sugar, it breaks fat into fatty acids (such as acetone) for energy, causing acidic blood. The breath smells like nail polish (acetone). Excess sugar is eliminated in the urine, causing dehydration.

Long-term complications include: heart attack, stroke, blindness, kidney failure, nerve damage, infections (high blood sugar impairs immune response), and amputations because of infections (often the toes/feet, up to, or above the knee).

If you think you may have diabetes, contact your doctor. If you have diabetes, being an informed participant with your care team will help achieve your health goals.

Community Health Charities of California (CHCC), one of the new charities included in the County’s Charitable Giving Campaign, works in partnership with more than 50 of our nation’s leading health charities including the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, City of Hope, Susan G. Komen, and Sickle Cell Disease Foundation of California. When employees choose to support CHCC member charities, donations support medical research, patient services, and outreach in local communities. Employees can choose to designate to the CHCC member health charity or charities of their choice, or designate their donation specifically to Community Health Charities.

Here’s testimony of Loretta Moody, Southern California Regional Director of Community Health Charities, on the importance of giving.

Shortly after my son Jonathan was born, he was diagnosed with a genetic and fatal disease called Cystic Fibrosis. As such, my son would get respiratory infections causing repeated pneumonia which would have taken my son’s life. When he was 20 and in the end stages of his life, we received help from organizations like the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, Ronald McDonald House Charities, American Diabetes Association, and Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. These organizations added years to my son’s life.

My son was fortunate to be on a lung transplant waiting list. It was through a retired County employee that my son’s life was saved.

Seven years ago, Greg Harrington was a manager at the Department of Parks and Recreation. Greg’s stepson, Erik Rodriguez, was in a fatal skate board accident. Greg and Erik’s mother, Rosie, chose to donate their son’s organs, saving the life of my son Jonathan and three other people. Jonathan and I have become family with the Harrington’s and together we encourage people to visit www.donatelifeca.org to consider signing up to be an organ donor.



Neonika Walker and Vanessa Olivas from Public Works receive the Government Award from Ann Greenspun, board member, Southern California Blood Services Region.

County of Los Angeles Honored at Annual American Red Cross Awards Luncheon

Blood drive program with Red Cross continues to earn high marks for saving lives

In September, the American Red Cross Blood Services honored the County of Los Angeles and other elite supporters at the organization's 2013 Annual Meeting and Awards Presentation. Once a year, the Red Cross holds its premiere recognition event to thank the outstanding volunteers, businesses, churches, schools, and institutions that enable the Red Cross to host thousands of blood drives and save lives at hospitals all across the Southland.

The County of Los Angeles earned three awards, topping hundreds of blood drive organizers from Southern California. The Department of Public Works won the award for the most pints donated at a single government facility – 412. The Civic Center and Hall of Administration won Honorable Mention in the same category with 315 pints. The County also received the award for the most pints collected overall – 3,554 lifesaving donations!

With a luncheon at the Castaway Restaurant in Burbank, the Red Cross celebrated another year of remarkable growth and achievement. Red Cross CEO Clifford Ira Numark shared how the County and others helped Red Cross collect more than 400,000 lifesaving pints of blood, and become the highest producing blood bank in the country. "The need for blood is constant. Blood for trauma victims, premature babies, and chronic disease patients is a life and death issue," stated Numark. "We are incredibly grateful to our elected leaders and the L.A. County employees for their continued support,"

he added. "L.A. County's blood drive program is a shining model of success. We hope your collective kindness inspires others to see just how important blood donations truly are."

Please contact your department Blood Drive Ambassador to find out the next blood drive.

Did you know that you can donate blood at any County facility and your department will still receive credit? Just make sure you add your department name when you sign-in. Also, if your facility is open to the public, your department receives credit for everyone who participates. If your department does not have a blood drive scheduled anytime soon, check out <http://www.redcrossblood.org/make-donation> to find the nearest County-sponsored blood drive near you. One donation can save as many as three lives!

Probation Launches The "Most Wanted" Campaign

In a historic move, the Probation Department, which typically operates under strict confidentiality rules, uses stylistic photos and videos on its website, Twitter, and Facebook for recruitment purposes.

Chief Probation Officer Jerry Powers has publicly introduced a new recruiting campaign, "Probation's Most Wanted-The Best of the Best" at a Board of Supervisors meeting.

"It is essential that we let the public know that yes, we are hiring, but we are seeking only the most ethical, qualified candidates who can meet the highest standards of this administration which is by design, not an easy task," said Chief Powers.

Out of those who do apply, only the top 10 percent pass the exams, polygraph, and background investigations.

The new standards in the exam process mean passing at least four hurdles designed to vet candidates for ethics, character, and work style, as well as job skills. For the first time, the Department is also requiring candidates to take a polygraph exam and pass a rigorous background investigation.

PROBATION

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PROBATION

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Probation Staff

The background investigation includes:

- Canvassing a job candidate's neighbors, friends and social media
- Local, State, and federal record checks
- A medical and psychological examination

Chief Powers is also tightening hiring guidelines. There is 'zero tolerance' for use of controlled substances, misdemeanor convictions, and acts of violence. The Chief has also beefed up his internal affairs unit with additional investigators and support staff to handle disciplinary cases.

Also, for the first time, the public will see and hear directly from Probation Officers on video and social media about the challenging nature of their work, and the rewarding outcomes for their clients. Dozens of Probation staff, including uniformed officers, volunteered to tell their personal stories as part of the department's "Most Wanted-The Best of the Best campaign."

Visit "Work With Us" at www.Probation.LACounty.gov or on Twitter @LACProbation and on Facebook at www.Facebook.com/LACProbation.

November is National Adoption Month

During the month of November, all around the country people are celebrating families, but not just any families – families who have come together through adoption. Children who were growing up in foster care and had no one in their lives now have moms, dads, grandparents, aunts and uncles, and sisters and brothers. Adults who were single, married, or partnered fulfilled their dream of making a difference by creating or adding to their family.



Daniel

For 18 years, November has been celebrated as National Adoption Month, building awareness of adoption and bringing attention to the children in foster care in need of a permanent family. National Adoption Day was celebrated on Friday, November 22, 2013, at the Edmund D. Edelman Children's Court where over 100 children and their new families finalized their adoption.

The Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) needs loving families to adopt older children and sibling groups. There are over 400 wonderful children waiting for a permanent family – one of them is Daniel.

Meet 15-year-old Daniel. He has a unique blend of scientific smarts and creativity. Daniel is an excellent student and loves biology. His career goals are to be either a marine biologist or a chef. He hopes to be able to attend either a four-year college or maybe Le Cordon Bleu. Daniel is also an avid reader. He can get along with just about anyone and describes himself as "adaptable, respectful, truthful, and funny." His social worker describes Daniel as "smart, engaging, and a sweet teddy bear." Daniel is open to different family configurations and, while liking the idea of being a brother to someone, his first priority is being part of a permanent family.

DCFS is also seeking families to become foster parents and provide temporary care for children until they can be reunited with their birth families. There is a significant need for foster parents for infants, siblings, and teens.

Whether you're single, married, or partnered, you can make a positive difference in the life of a child. Providing a home for Daniel or another waiting child can be one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences in your life. To learn more about becoming a foster or adoptive parent, please visit www.ShareYourHeartLA.org or call (888) 811-1121. A child needs you!

WeTip
WELFARE FRAUD
1 (800) 87-FRAUD

Fatherhood Programs and Child Support Strengthen Partnership at Summit in Los Angeles

A first of its kind, Fatherhood Summit (Summit) in Los Angeles County laid the groundwork to improve the collection of child support for families by improving communication and cooperation between child support agencies and community organizations serving parents in healthy marriage and responsible fatherhood programs.

The Summit, held on May 1, 2013, was a half-day dialogue with representatives from seven community organizations, each one a recipient of a 2011 federal Healthy Marriage/Fatherhood grant. Executives from Child Support Services Department (CSSD) and the federal Office of Family Assistance (OFA) gave presentations and participated in the discussion. The OFA awards the Healthy Marriage/Fatherhood grants received by the Southern California agencies. The Summit was held at CSSD headquarters.

CSSD Director, Dr. Steven J. Golightly, hosted the Summit at the request of Dr. Earl Johnson, Director of OFA. Both executives noted that the goal of the Summit was to “connect the two programs” and promote dialogue between the child support and federal grantees in Southern California.



*Dr. Earl Johnson
Office of Family Assistance*

“There is no other program in the federal portfolio, like child support, that has contact with low-income fathers from the time their children are born until they reach age of majority,” Dr. Golightly told Summit attendees.

Dr. Johnson conveyed to the attendees that their funded projects were part of the President’s commitment to build stronger families and communities. “I want to thank you all, this is not easy work. We want to serve the most vulnerable. We need to be there for them. This is the first

step. We will have a great partnership, but we need your leadership. Exchange cards and make commitments.”

The Summit also included other presentations to improve understanding and communication between the grantees, CSSD and other California child support agencies. CSSD Chief Deputy Director David Kilgore provided an update on the Department’s WorkSource project which connects parents

with child support cases to employment services and CSSD Deputy Director Lori Cruz provided information about the child support program.

An important concluding session enabled participants to break into groups to outline the services of the healthy marriage and responsible fatherhood programs. Each group reported out on their goals and challenges so that everyone attending the Summit would have a better understanding of the federal grantee agencies and their project work.

For Fatherhood information in Los Angeles County, please contact CSSD Deputy Director Lori Cruz at (323) 889- 3410.

Pancreatic Cancer: Creative Destruction

November is Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month. Although associated with highly-creative people (Steve Jobs and Randy Pausch, author of “The Last Lecture”), pancreatic cancer is one of the most destructive. Of 45,000 Americans diagnosed annually, nearly 80% die within five years.

Because the pancreas is toward the back of the abdomen:

1. Many people present with advanced disease and non-specific symptoms: weight loss, upper abdomen/back pain, jaundice (yellow skin/eyes from bile obstruction).
2. Definitive diagnosis is difficult. While CT scan and ultrasound are suggestive, biopsy is necessary, either through endoscopic ultrasound (a tube with camera and ultrasound placed down the esophagus) or through skin (under CT guidance). The CA-19-9 blood tumor marker is associated with pancreatic cancer, but is not sensitive or specific (many with pancreatic cancer don’t have this marker; a positive marker doesn’t mean pancreatic cancer).

Persons who are over 45 years old, male, African American, cigarette smokers, or obese are more likely to develop pancreatic cancer. Still, it is relatively uncommon. Screening is not recommended because the cancer is uncommon and there is no low-cost, non-invasive, highly-sensitive, and specific test that improves survival.

When detected early, chemotherapy and surgery can prolong life. Pain management and diet modification (the pancreas produces digestive enzymes) are other important aspects of care.



Great American Smokeout

The Great American Smokeout, an annual event sponsored by the American Cancer Society, is a prime opportunity for smokers to set a quit-smoking date or to encourage a loved one to make a quit attempt.

Quitting smoking offers many benefits, including these:

- Improving your physical health
- Saving you money

For many people, quitting smoking also leads to a better social and family life and a feeling of greater freedom.

Did you know that...?

- **In your first 20 minutes after quitting**, your blood pressure and heart rate recover from the cigarette-induced spike.
- **After 12 hours of smoke-free living**, the carbon monoxide levels in your blood return to normal.
- **After two weeks to three months of smoke-free living**, your circulation and lung function begin to improve.
- **One year after quitting smoking**, a person's risk of coronary heart disease is reduced by 50 percent.
- **Five to 15 years after quitting smoking**, a person's risk of stroke is similar to that of a nonsmoker.
- **After 10 years of smoke-free living**, your lung cancer death rate is about half that of a person who has continued to smoke. The risk of other cancers, such as throat, mouth, esophagus, bladder, cervix, and pancreas decreases, too.

Quitting smoking isn't easy, but you can do it! Whether this is your first time trying to quit or an attempt to quit again, there are free and low-cost resources available through the California Smokers' Helpline. Right now, with funding from the Department of Public Health, L.A. County residents can receive free nicotine patches through the Helpline.

Whether during the Great American Smokeout or another date, there are tools and resources available to assist smokers in kicking the nicotine habit. For more information, call the Helpline at (800) NO-BUTTS (662-8887) or visit www.laquits.com.



When Variety the Children's Charity of Southern California learned that it would be included as a new charity in the Employee Charitable Giving Campaign, "we were ecstatic" said Elizabeth O'Neil, Variety of SoCal's Executive Director. "We are so honored that the County has endorsed us as an organization worthy of its support. Variety is committed to ensuring that every employee donation helps the most children, where the need is greatest, in L.A. County."

Founded in 1941, Variety annually funds programs and services in L.A. County that support at-risk children and children with special needs in three key areas: mobility, education and health care. "We personally visit every organization to see firsthand the programs we fund and the children being helped," said O'Neil.

Variety's Mobility Program funds adaptive medical equipment for children with disabilities and limited mobility. Variety steps in where insurance and other funding step out. "Sunshine Coaches" provide organizations the necessary transportation to take kids to field trips, camps, therapy, and medical appointments.

Education grants fund college scholarships, after school programs for at-risk children and teens, and early literacy programs. Variety of Southern California is also a primary supporter of the Variety Boys and Girls Club of Boyle Heights. The Charity's \$5 million pledge to the Capital Campaign helped build an amazing new state of the art building that opened two years ago and serves thousands of children and families in the Boyle Heights community.

Health care grants fund camps for children affected by HIV/AIDS, cancer, brain injuries, and other life-threatening illnesses; neo-natal intensive care equipment for hospitals in underserved communities; early intervention programs for kids with learning disabilities; and medical care and therapy for children who are victims of abuse, neglect, and homelessness.

"Visiting the children we serve is what keeps all of us at Variety focused on our mission: to inspire hope, enrich lives, and build a better future for the children in our community, said O'Neil. "All of us at Variety the Children's Charity of Southern California want to thank L.A. County employees for their support."

TOP TEN PROJECTS

- 1) **Reducing Canine Euthanasia through Partnerships**
Animal Care and Control
- 2) **Digital Annual Report – Educating Residents Online**
Chief Executive Office
- 3) **eComplaints – Online Intake and Case Management**
Consumer Affairs and Internal Services
- 4) **Reduction of Healthcare – Associated Infections**
Health Services
- 5) **Stopping Hate and Delinquency by Empowering Students**
Los Angeles Superior Court with District Attorney, Probation, and Simon Wiesenthal Center Museum of Tolerance
- 6) **Prevention and Early Intervention Veteran System Navigator**
Military and Veterans Affairs with Mental Health
- 7) **Forces of Nature**
Parks and Recreation
- 8) **eContract Management Encounter Billing System**
Public Health
- 9) **Parents as Partners: Growing Stronger Families**
Public Library with Mental Health, Parks and Recreation, and Probation
- 10) **Sustainable Pavement Treatment for County Roads**
Public Works



Dean C. Logan, Chair Leadership awardee, with Commissioner McIntyre and CEO Fujioka

27th Annual Productivity and Quality Awards

More than 500 County employees, including executive staff and managers, joined Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, Chairman, Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich, and Supervisor Don Knabe; the Quality and Productivity Commission; and Chief Executive Officer William T Fujioka for the 27th Annual Productivity and Quality Awards ceremony.

“Saluting County Excellence” was the theme of the annual event, which spotlights innovative and creative projects developed by employees to enhance productivity and improve County services for its nearly 10 million residents.

CBS-TV Anchor Kent Shocknek, a fixture on morning television, served as master of ceremonies. He wowed the audience with engaging stories about the Music Center, including a meeting between actor Cary Grant and singer Dolly Parton.

A consummate professional, Shocknek’s energetic introduction of each of the Commission’s Special and Top 10 awards captivated the employees, who anxiously awaited announcement of the Bronze (Military and Veterans Affairs: Prevention and Early Intervention Veterans System Navigator), Silver (Consumer Affairs: eComplaints – Online Intake and Case Management), and Gold Eagle (Public Health: eContract Management Encounter Billing System) Award winners.

Commission Founder

Supervisor Antonovich, who introduced the Board motion in 1981 to establish the Commission, said, “Since its inception the Commission has furthered the County’s commitment to better, more efficient government operations, which enhance services to County residents.”

The Supervisor pointed out that projects recognized at the PQA ceremony “have resulted in more than \$135 million dollars in benefits to the County.”

“I drive local streets and share your frustration with potholes,” said Supervisor Ridley-Thomas, citing the benefits of the Department of Public Works’ Top 10 Project, “Sustainable Pavement Treatment for County Roads.” In commending the Department, he said, “the project has saved the County more than \$4 million and has made driving a little smoother. This is only one example of the great initiatives developed by County departments,” added Supervisor Ridley-Thomas.

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Gold Eagle - Department of Public Health

Supervisor Don Knabe congratulated the PQA winners and said, “your innovative and creative projects demonstrate an ongoing commitment to quality and productivity. Our employees are the best and the brightest.”

Best Practices

“The Productivity and Quality Awards ceremony focuses on many projects the Commission has identified during its Department Visits as best practices,” said CEO Fujioka. “All departments benefit because the Commission publishes the programs in an annual report that is distributed Countywide.”

Commissioner Edward T. McIntyre, Chair, told the capacity crowd, “Everyday County employees, managers, and staff work to improve the quality of both the processes and outcomes of services provided to our County residents. You are all here because of your creativity and dedication. The Commission is proud to recognize your successful projects, and we applaud your commitment to excellence.”

Leadership Awards

A major highlight is presentation of the Leadership Awards. Commissioner McIntyre was joined by CEO Fujioka to present the Commission’s Chair Leadership Award to Dean C. Logan, Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk. “I was truly surprised — and, more importantly, honored and humbled — to receive the 2013 Chair’s Leadership Award,” said Logan, adding, “The truth is I stand on the shoulders of our entire RR/CC community; which is how and where the real work gets done.”

COMMISSION SPECIAL AWARDS

- 1) **Best Application of Technology** – The Power of Mobility, Human Resources
- 2) **Best Service Improvement Award** – Customer Service Center, Public Social Services
- 3) **Best Teamwork Award** – Stopping Hate and Delinquency by Empowering Students, L.A. Superior Court with District Attorney, Probation and Simon Wiesenthal Center, Museum of Tolerance
Best Teamwork Award – Parents as Partners: Growing Stronger Families, Public Library with Mental Health, Parks and Recreation and Probation
- 4) **Commissioners’ Memorial Award** – Parents as Partners: Growing Stronger Families, Mental Health
- 5) **County Image Enhancement Award** – Forces of Nature, Parks and Recreation
- 6) **Mega Million Dollar Award** – MdR Maintenance Dredging and Beach Nourishment, Beaches and Harbors
- 7) **Performance Measurement Award** – DCFS Data Dashboard of Performance Measurement, Children and Family Services with Internal Services
- 8) **Personal Best Award** – Enhanced Solar Power Installation Fees/Procedures – Mostafa Kashe, Public Works
- 9) **Plain Language Award** – Zoning Enforcement in Plain Language, Regional Planning
- 10) **Productivity Enhancement Award** – Business Filing and Registration/Lean Six Sigma Partnership, Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk



Kirk Shelton, Productivity Manager of the Year, with Commissioner McIntyre

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*Silver Eagle - Department of Consumer Affairs
and Internal Services Department*



*Bronze Eagle - Department of Military and Veterans Affairs
with Department of Mental Health*

"I feel very fortunate to work in an environment where I can encourage innovation and make a difference in the lives of the public we serve," he said. "The way in which the Commission advances and recognizes those opportunities is something very special," said Logan.

Kirk Shelton, Chief Deputy, Consumer Affairs, received the Productivity Manager of the Year Award. "Kirk is a strong leader, who consistently shows enthusiasm and a positive attitude," said Commissioner McIntyre.

Jennifer Coultas, Chair of the Productivity Managers Network (PMN), opened the luncheon with welcoming remarks, and Emma Ayala, Chair of the PMN's Awards Committee, introduced the master of ceremonies and program participants. Coultas is the Productivity Manager for the Child Support Services Department and Ayala serves in the same role for the Department of Public Works.

The County Fire Department Honor Guard posted the colors, Shaunte Crosby, Petty Officer First Class, U.S. Navy, led the Pledge of Allegiance, and Fire Fighter Paramedic Humberto Agurcia sang the National Anthem. The invocation was delivered by Varun Soni, Ph.D., Dean of Religious Life, USC.

Videos of each winning project will be posted to the QPC website at <http://qpc.co.la.ca.us>.



November 2013 CGC Payroll Deduction Challenge: It Starts with You!

Attention Employees:

Any employee that signs up for payroll deduction during November will be eligible to receive one of the great opportunity prize drawings below for the monthly Payroll Deduction Challenge!

The monthly Payroll Deduction Challenge will continue through December 31st and there will be one grand prize at the end of the Charitable Giving Campaign. To sign up for payroll deduction, contact your CGC Coordinator or the Office of Workplace Programs.

All employees that already support the Charitable Giving Campaign through payroll deduction are automatically entered in the drawing and will be eligible for one of the opportunity drawing prizes below.



November Payroll Deduction Prizes:



- ★ Premium Movie Studio Gift Basket (Disney Studios) that includes:
 - Disney Watch
 - Various Disney Movie Blu-Rays
 - Apparel from the following Disney movies: The Lone Ranger, WALL-E, Monster's University, Brave and Planes
 - A wide variety of other Disney movie goodies

- ★ Paramount Studio Tour for Four People

- ★ Framed "Rise of the Guardians" Movie Poster Autographed by the Cast and Crew.



More prizes will be offered for the December challenge. Monthly winners will be posted on the CGC website. For more info, visit ceo.lacounty.gov/wpp. All prizes provided by the Fund Distribution Agencies.

The 2013 Charitable Giving Campaign Challenge starts with You!



51st Annual Marina del Rey Holiday Boat Parade

Organizers of the 51st Annual Marina del Rey Holiday Boat Parade announced their choice of Co-Grand Marshals – Jeanie Buss and Phil Jackson – who will be aboard the motor vessel ‘Pastabilities’ during the Marina del Rey Holiday Boat Parade on December 14, 2013, from 6-8 p.m., with a fireworks show starting at 5:55 p.m.

“Jeanie Buss and Phil Jackson are the ideal candidates for this event with this year’s theme being ‘Holiday Magic.’ Their long-time association with the Los Angeles Lakers will definitely showcase the Marina for crowds attending this unique Southern California event and we are thrilled to be a partner with them” said Cindy Williams, President, Marina del Rey Holiday Boat Parade.

Entering her first season as President after 14 seasons as Executive Vice President of Business Operations, Jeanie Buss is now responsible for running all aspects of the Los Angeles Lakers organization. Buss, who will continue to lead all Lakers business operations, which include managing team marketing and sponsorships, as well as relationships with broadcast partners, will also oversee the team’s basketball operations, working closely with Executive Vice President of Basketball Operations Jim Buss and General Manager Mitch Kupchak. In addition to her role as team President, Buss also serves as the Lakers’ Governor, representing the team on the NBA’s Board of Governors. Named by the Sporting News in April 2005 as one of the Top 20 Most Influential Women in Sports, Buss serves on the board of the Southern California Committee for the Olympic Games, working to bring the Olympics back to Los Angeles. She is engaged to Hall-of-Fame and former Lakers head coach Phil Jackson.

In 11 seasons as Head Coach of the Los Angeles Lakers, Phil Jackson’s results after coming west were nothing short of amazing. In his first three seasons, Jackson led the Lakers to three consecutive NBA Championships (2000-02) for the first time in franchise history (Los Angeles era). First with the Chicago Bulls (1991-1993 and 1996-98) and then with Los Angeles (2000-02, 2009-10), Jackson won an NBA Championship (11 times) more than half of the time he spent as a head coach (20 years) and visited the NBA Finals (13 times) even more often. His postseason resume is even more

impressive. Jackson led the Lakers to five NBA Championships, seven Western Conference Titles and a 118-63 mark in the playoffs including the team’s 15-1 (.938) run during the 2001 NBA playoffs, which is the highest winning percentage for any club in a single postseason in league history.

For Boat Parade information or to download a Boat Parade entry form, visit mdrboatparade.org.



Photo by
Marina del Rey Holiday Boat Parade

New Safe Surrender Outreach Campaign

Campaign broadens outreach through multiple languages, grassroots efforts, and digital content

Supervisor Don Knabe celebrated the success of the County’s Baby Safe Surrender program with the launch of a new awareness campaign and a birthday celebration for Nicholas, a former Safe Surrender baby. The new Baby Safe Surrender campaign will expand the program’s outreach to communities across Los Angeles County by launching in multiple languages, collaborating with community-based organizations, and relying on a mix of traditional and grassroots awareness efforts. The campaign includes billboards, posters, bumper stickers, brochures, and a redesigned website.

“A unique aspect of this Safe Surrender outreach campaign will be our partnerships with community-based organizations throughout the County,” said Supervisor Knabe. “We are really reaching out to influential members of the community—*promotoras*, church leaders, and local health providers—to help us spread the word that there is a better choice: No shame. No blame. No names.”



All About Us

Employees of the County of Los Angeles

LA COUNTY STARS!*



OCTOBER 2013

Service Excellence and Organizational Effectiveness

Brant Choate

Sheriff's Department

with Chief Dave Fender ♦ Sheriff Lee Baca ♦ Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas ♦ Captain Michael Bornman

Over the past 18 months, Brant Choate has been a tireless advocate for inmate education. Through his efforts, the Sheriff's Department now boasts three charter schools, a high school, and a community college, offering inmates GED programs, high school diplomas, and AA degrees through independent study. His visionary concepts have led to a number of impressive innovations in custody programming, including remote learning through the use of computers, inmates teaching inmates through the "merit master's" program, creative use of technologies, and the growth of programs in all aspects of the correctional environment. He has saved the County approximately \$8 million this year by procuring these alternatives for inmate education.

***LA COUNTY STARS!** recognizes and celebrates exceptional achievements of County employees to promote and reward performance consistent with the Values, Mission, and Goals of the County Strategic Plan.

LA COUNTY STARS!



OCTOBER 2013

Service Excellence and Organizational Effectiveness

Florence-Firestone/Walnut Park Zoning Enforcement Team

Department of Regional Planning

David Fuentes ♦ Jonathan Bell

with Richard Bruckner, Director ♦ Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas ♦ Jon Sanabria, Chief Deputy Director

David Fuentes and Jonathan Bell are Regional Planning's local representatives to the unincorporated communities of Florence-Firestone/Walnut Park. They are the face of County code enforcement in a rapidly transitional area with residents often confused about who provides their local services. Between them, Fuentes and Bell opened 1,033 new cases, reinspected 1,846 cases, closed 919 cases, and filed several cases with the District Attorney and County Counsel. On average, a zoning inspector would inspect approximately 1,000 properties a year. Together, they conducted close to 3,800 inspections last year. Their efforts have become a template duplicated in other unincorporated areas.



Consumer Affairs to Expand Homeowner Notification Program

The Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) is pleased to announce an expansion of its Homeowner Notification Program, which has informed and assisted Los Angeles County homeowners for more than 15 years. The expanded program will allow DCA to become a partner in homeownership for the people of L.A. County. DCA offers free, reliable help to consumers with every aspect of owning a home – from getting a good loan to dealing with home improvement contractors to avoiding a foreclosure.

DCA's trained staff will help County homeowners facing foreclosure stay in their homes, continue its efforts to fight real estate fraud, and advise homeowners about their rights and responsibilities.

The Homeowner Notification Program

Since 1996, the County has operated a Homeowner Notification Program, which notifies homeowners when a deed, quitclaim deed, or deed of trust is recorded. Homeowners receive a copy of the recorded document and are instructed to call DCA for information or help.

Hundreds of thousands of notifications are sent out each year. Nearly 10,000 of those homeowners contact DCA for help in fighting possible real estate fraud. Surveys sent with notifications show more than 96 percent of homeowners approve of the program.

The Housing Foreclosure Crisis

In recent years, L.A. County homeowners have been impacted by the housing crisis and continue to face high rates of foreclosure and underwater mortgage debt. Since 2006, more than 450,000 L.A. County homes have entered foreclosure. Foreclosure fraud has also increased greatly. Scam artists search public records to find properties in foreclosure and send official-looking documents which promise to end the foreclosure for an upfront fee, which is against the law.

State and County Lawmakers Pass Bills to Expand Program

County-sponsored Senate Bill (SB) 62 was approved by the State Senate and Assembly and signed into law by Governor Brown in July 2011. The law took effect in January 2012 and enabled the County to increase recording fees on certain real estate documents to provide notification to homeowners and tenants in foreclosed homes. The new law also authorizes DCA to use a portion of the increased recording fees to provide counseling, information, and assistance to persons who receive the notice. The Board of Supervisors on October 22, 2013 approved an amendment to the County Code, Title 2 - Administration, to add Section 2.32.091, which calls for the expanded Homeowner Notification Program.

Expanding Homeowner Notification Program to Help Avoid Foreclosures

The County will expand the Homeowner Notification Program to notify both homeowners and tenants who receive a *Notice of Default* or *Notice of Sale*, the primary notices used in a foreclosure. Notifying homeowners who have received a *Notice of Default* or *Notice of Sale* will reduce foreclosure fraud and give homeowners the information and help they need to save their home. DCA offers free, reliable assistance to help homeowners avoid becoming a victim of foreclosure fraud; works directly with lenders to explore all options to avoid foreclosure; and coordinates with law enforcement and prosecuting and regulatory agencies to identify and investigate real estate fraud cases for referral for civil or criminal prosecution.

For more information about Consumer Affairs' services, dial (800) 593-8222 or visit online at dca.lacounty.gov.

Rideshare L.A. County!

The smog levels in Los Angeles in 1943 cut the visibility down to three blocks. Just recently, the pollution in China broke all over the news.

Today in Harbin, China, smog levels have cut the visibility down to 10 meters or 33 feet. We've come a long way over the last 70 years, but we can do more.

There was a recent report highlighted by the South Coast Air Quality Management District that also links pollution to autism.

You can save lives by ridesharing at least one day a week. Take pride and share the ride to save money, save time, and save lives. For more information on how you can do your part, visit www.rideshare.lacounty.gov.

Retirees

Congratulations to the following employees who are joining the ranks of the retired after their many years of service to the County of Los Angeles:

45+ Years

SHERIFF: Priscilla Davis

40+ Years

HEALTH SERVICES: Carolyn Contreras, Rita J. Harris, Helen B. Lee

PARKS & RECREATION: Frederick C. Lue

PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES: Barbara Henson, Jennifer M. Rios

SUPERIOR COURT: Irene L. Ng

35+ Years

CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES: Sherrie N. Barmore

HEALTH SERVICES: Craig Childs, Balistine Thomas, Jasmin H. Trinidad, Rita Ware, Susan S. Wee, Ophelia Wright

INTERNAL SERVICES: Saundra L. McFerren

MENTAL HEALTH: Zenobia J. Turner-Meritt

PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES: Glenda Carr, Wilford Harris, Lorraine Lucero, Darlene Saunders, Susan Twyford

PUBLIC HEALTH: Lee A. Denmon Jr., Cole Landowski

PUBLIC WORKS: Benjamin Del Castillo Jr.

REGISTRAR-RECORDER/COUNTY CLERK: Julia Fuller, Dorothy L. Scates

SHERIFF: Concepcion A. Carrillo, Hector M. Rojas

SUPERIOR COURT: Candyce M. Durham-Anderson

TREASURER & TAX COLLECTOR: Evelyn F. Hill

30+ Years

CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES: Alberto Mejia

COUNTY COUNSEL: Richard E. Townsend

HEALTH SERVICES: Mark W. Fairbanks, Marta I. Hernandez, Velma G. Kidd, Lanitra D. Wasson

INTERNAL SERVICES: Jose L. Salomon, Joella Shepherd, Antoinette T. Smith

MEDICAL EXAMINER-CORONER: Susan F. Selser

MENTAL HEALTH: Delia Orta

PUBLIC HEALTH: Kimberly J. Kuba, Elvie L. Tuttle, Miriam Wadalawala

PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES: Mabel Barnett

PUBLIC WORKS: Marilyn Lee, Hung M. Nguyen, Johnny R. Wardlow

SHERIFF: Sean J. Dane, Gerald L. Dixon, Richard R. Esquer, Frederick J. Hill, Richard C. Nutt, Jerome F. Ryan, Gregory L. Thompson, Albert Verduzco, Douglas H. Williams

25+ Years

ASSESSOR: Napoleon U. Azarcon, Oswaldo V. Cadiz

CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES: Rebecca Porras

CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES: Ann M. Noble Johnson, Marla Wiley

HEALTH SERVICES: Barry G. Baylen, Silvia I. Livas, Gabriele E. Meneghini, Panijda Poompan, Jim R. Tang, Chiao Y. Yang, Su-Hee Yoo

HUMAN RESOURCES: Bruce F. McDonald


MENTAL HEALTH: Patricia Gilbert

PROBATION: Terry M. Cardenas, Hozell C. Francis, Cyrus Joyner Jr.


PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES: Mal K. Rieger, Sandra Walker

PUBLIC WORKS: Norman E. Cole

SHERIFF: Cynthia A. Marshall, Liam P. Gallagher, Guillermo Mendez, Kenneth B. Rosengrant, Clifford W. Yates Jr.



Why We Give



"It is important to give back to the Los Angeles County community and its citizens, as the dollars we give are used to serve those who need help. It will also further enhance our local community and society as a whole".

Philip L. Browning, Director
Department of Children and Family Services

Workplace giving begins with each and every one of you,
and we want to know how and why you give.

ANIMAL CARE

continued from page 1

The Department of Animal Care and Control continues its mission of providing compassionate services to the world's best friends—animals. In doing so, the Department is upgrading its call center in Downey which is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The call center receives 700,000 calls per year. It will open its second communications center in the Antelope Valley and will add another animal care shelter (its seventh) in Palmdale in 2016. The Department provides services to 88 cities, 52 contract cities with a cadre of 10 veterinarians and 10 veterinarian technicians and a staff of 360.

CARING

It starts with

KIND

HEARTED

PROVIDER

GENUINE

EMPOWER

VALUABLE

MIND

FULL

HOPE

HELPING

HAND

LOVING

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COMEDY CRUISE

SAPPHIRE PRINCESS
PRINCESS CRUISES
MARCH 15TH - 19TH, 2014

CRUISE TO CATALINA ISLAND & ENSENADA, MEXICO



MO COLLINS



FRENCH STEWART



RONNIE MARMO



CATHY LADMAN



MAILE FLANAGAN



ALEX SAUBEY



CHERYL HAWKER



DANNY SCHMITZ



TWO HEADED DOG



VICKI WAGNER



TAYLOR GAHN



JACKIE MONAHAN



KATSY CHAPPELL



BOOK NOW



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